(1) the names of officers whose scale of pay has been raised after the advent of the present Diwan;

(2) their scale of pay both before and after the enhancement;

(3) what is the average yearly increase in the expenditure of the state by reason of the above raising of pay?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—(1), (2) and (3) A statement containing the information is appended. (*Appendix X.*)

Public Works Department—contracts.

247. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the full nature of six contracts in descending order, of Public Works, with the contracted amount of each, involving the largest expenditure of public revenue, that have been granted by the Public Works Department during the seven years, preceding the retirement of Mr. Narayana Ayyar from the Diwan-ship of the State;

(b) the names and particulars of the contractors in (a),

(c) the full nature with costs of each, of six items of the Public Works in descending order, the department undertook directly (*i. e.*, without contractors) during the period indicated in (a) and which involved the largest expenditure of public revenue?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) and (b) A list showing the particulars is appended (*Appendix XI.*)

(c) A list of such works is appended (*Appendix XII.*)

Trichur Sirkar High School Students and Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday Celebration.

248. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether some of the students of the Sirkar High School, Trichur, went out of the class-rooms in connection with the birthday celebration of Mahatma Gandhi;

(2) if so how many students absented themselves each day in each class in this connection and of these how many were admitted each day and on what conditions;

(3) did the Headmaster issue any order to the effect that guardians should give an undertaking that the students will not in future take part in such celebrations before they are admitted;

(4) will a copy of the same be placed on the table;

(5) what were the orders of the Director of Public Instruction about this matter and what were the reports of the Headmaster about this incident;

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(6) did the Director issue final orders to the effect that students may be admitted on tendering apology and how many students were admitted on the apology demanded by the Director;

(7) did the Director issue any general circular about this;

(8) if so, will a copy of the same be placed on the table?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) Statement appended. (*Appendix XIII*).

(3) No.

(4) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to the sub-division above.

(5) When the Director of Public instruction happened to meet one of the processions of school students on the day in question at about 2-45 p. m.—an hour when the students ought to be at work—he issued a Memo to the Heads of schools in Trichur to report whether the pupils of their respective schools left off work and took part in the public demonstrations with or without permission of the teachers and the Heads of schools. The Headmaster, High School, Trichur, reported that some pupils of the Upper Secondary Classes wilfully absented themselves on the day and that he with a view to put a stop to such wilful wantonness and growth of ill-discipline issued a notice that all the guilty students should be kept under suspension till Tuesday next.

(6) The Director only issued orders to the Headmaster to make it clear to the guardians that the undertaking is to be given by the boys themselves, as some guardians seemed to labour under a misapprehension on the wording that "they (students) cannot be re-admitted unless they bring their guardians with them and give an undertaking against the repetition of similar conduct in future" in the notice issued by the Headmaster. Six pupils were admitted after the notice was made clear.

(7) No general circular other than the Memo referred to in the answer to sub-division (5) was issued.

(8) In view of the answer to sub-division (7) no answer is necessary.

Grant of pension to Mr. Ninan.

249. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the date on which Mr. Ninan, Assistant Engineer, left the service of the State;

(b) what were the circumstances under which he served his connection with the State service;

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5. did the Government take into consideration the applications of persons who have been in active professional practice;

6. if so, why were the applications of persons in active practice for more than 8 years rejected;

(b) have all persons so selected jointed duty; if not, how many have not joined duty; has the Government any idea of filling up the vacancies so created, if not why not;

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) 1. Fourteen.

2. Thirteen were selected and one was rejected.

3. Mr. P. N. Vaidyanatha Ayyar was not selected. His application was not signed and therefore his name was not included in the list of persons recommended.

4. There was no specific criterion for the selection.

5. and 6. No answer is necessary in view of the answer to part 4 above.

(b) No. Three have yet to join duty. There is no idea of filling up the vacancies at present as those selected may join duty any time.

293. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government has so far appointed any Honorary Surgeon or Honorary Physician in the hospitals of Ernakulam and Trichur. If not why not?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

294. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any idea of modifying the present scheme to adopt to conditions that are obtained in British India, viz', to replace the present paid staff gradually by honorary staff?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Government have no such idea at present.

Occasional second crop assessment.

295. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether any resolution has so far been passed in the Legislative Council, recommending the abolition of 'occasional second crop assessment' in the state;

(b) if so, what action the Government has taken on the same;

(c) whether the Government has any idea now of abandoning 'occasional second crop assessment' for the future?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(a) No.

(b) The necessity for answering this question does not arise in view of the answer given to question (a).

(c) No.

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